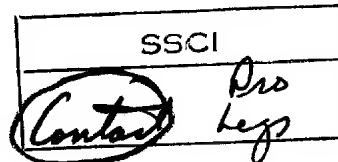


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Rep Biden
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OLC 77-2308
26 May 1977



MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Courtesy Call on Chairman Joseph Biden (D., Del.),
Subcommittee on Secrecy and Disclosure, Senate Select
Committee on Intelligence, by Dr. Robert Bowie,
D/DCI/NIO

1. This afternoon I accompanied Dr. Robert Bowie, D/DCI/NIO, to a meeting with Chairman Joseph Biden. The meeting was set up at the suggestion of Senator Charles McC. Mathias (R., Md.) who had suggested that Dr. Bowie meet with all the Chairmen of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence Subcommittees. Hal Ford, of the Select Committee staff, sat in on the meeting.

2. Chairman Biden was a bit late for our meeting and explained that he had been detained at a session on the busing situation which he said was going to become crucial in the state of Delaware. The Chairman then stated that he has a very high regard for the people in the Agency and the work they were doing. He noted that the errors of the past were largely, not exclusively, the result of misdirection from higher authority. The Chairman's remarks gave the strongest possible commendation for CIA personnel and their product. I told him I was sorry that our people could not hear him make this statement because while many members had made these statements in private, few had made them in public. The Chairman said he would be glad to make the statement publicly and I then told him that I thought it would be worthwhile for some of our people to hear his views on this subject and perhaps he would be willing to speak at one of our training classes. The Chairman indicated that he would be glad to.

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3. The Chairman then mentioned the meeting which the members of the Select Committee had with the President at the White House about ten days ago.

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The Chairman said he was pleased to see Mr. Bowie in his present position and looked forward to further contact with him. It was clear from our meeting that Chairman Biden will press very hard in the charter revision exercise to get language included in the draft legislation which will delineate the Committee's responsibilities and Agency restrictions.

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GEORGE L. CARY
Legislative Counsel

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